LCO No. 5432

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOME CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (Effective July 1, 2015) (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall 2 study the benefits and costs of restructuring the Medicaid 3 reimbursement system for home health care agencies from a flat-rate 4 model to an acuity-based model that (1) reimburses agencies based on 5 the level of health care needs of a Medicaid beneficiary, and (2) supports state efforts to deinstitutionalize residents who are capable of 7 receiving care in a home or community-based setting through the 8 Money Follows the Person demonstration project established pursuant 9 to section 17b-369 of the general statutes.

(b) As part of the study, the commissioner shall also examine the impact of the existing Medicaid provider rate structure on (1) providing quality medical and behavioral home and community-based services including, but not limited to (A) licensed home health care, (B) home health aide, homemaker and companion services, and (C) adult day care; and (2) recruiting and retaining an adequate number of providers. The study shall include a review of the implications of basing Medicaid reimbursement for home and community-based services on a percentage of Medicare rates for such services. For home

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- and community-based services not included under the Medicare program, the study shall recommend an alternative rate system based on the level of home and community-based services required based on the acuity of patient health needs.
- (c) The commissioner may develop and fund the study in collaboration with interested representatives from home and community-based provider associations. Not later than December 1, 2015, the commissioner shall report the results of the study in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

| (Ef | fective | July 1, 2015 | New section | |
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